Office of
the Police Commissioner

Prince Edward Island

2014

Annual Report of the Police Commissioner

Office of the Police Commissioner
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The Office of Police Commissioner is established under Part VI of the ***Police Act*** R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. P -11.1

The office of the Police Commissioner (OPC) consists of Commissioner Hon. Gerard Mitchell, Deputy Commissioner Mr Roy Ridlington, and Manager/Senior Investigator Mr Paul Stetson.

The OPC deals with **Requests for Review** under Part VII and **Complaints** under Part VIII of the ***Police Act*** and any other matter assigned to the Police Commissioner under s. 18(1) of the ***Police Act.***

Section 19 of the ***Police Act*** requires the Police Commissioner to file an annual report for the preceding calendar year with the Attorney General within six months after the end of each calendar year. This is the report for the calendar year 2014.

Information required by ss. 19(1)(a)-(f)

During the year 2014:

[All section references below are to the ***Police Act***]

1. The Police Commissioner received three requests under s. 28 for review of a decision of a chief officer concerning complaints about the conduct of members of a police department. All three requests were investigated and dismissed by the manager/investigator of the OPC .

2. The Police Commissioner received no requests under s. 28 for review of any decision of the Director of the Atlantic Police Academy concerning complaints about instructing officers.

3. The Police Commissioner received no complaints under s. 35 concerning the conduct of a chief officer.

4. The Police Commissioner received no complaints under s.35 concerning the conduct of the Director of the Atlantic Police Academy.

5.The police Commissioner received no complaints under s. 35 concerning the conduct of a security police officer.

6. The Police Commissioner did not have to make any decisions under s.32(8) or s.43(8).

7. The manager of the OPC opened 29 assistance files. These relate to various individuals who raised a variety of issues or questions about policing on Prince Edward Island. The manager gave these individuals such assistance, advice, and direction as was appropriate in the circumstances.

8. An outline of the expenditures incurred by the OPC in carrying out its functions during the calendar year 2014 is attached to this report as "Appendix A".

Recommendations

1. As a result of one of the OPC investigations conducted by the OPC in 2014 it is recommended that Police Departments and Island Emergency Medical Services review standard operating procedures regarding their respective roles at an incident or scene where a person may have suffered injuries and is also liable to arrest. The purpose is to ensure an injured person is not incarcerated before he or she has received appropriate medical attention.

2. That the ***Police Act*** be amended to provide that complaints under Parts VII be made to the OPC which will then forward the complaint to the appropriate chief officer. That is what happens in a number of other Canadian jurisdictions. The reasons for this recommendation are: (1) the public find it confusing and frustrating that the OPC cannot receive their complaints against police officers; (2) some people are timid about having to file their complaint at the police department where the officer being complained about works ; (3) the proposed change would enable the OPC to be aware of and keep track of all the complaints that are in the system.

3. It is recommended that legislative changes to ss. 23(1)(c), ss.40(1) and, ss. 43(5)(g) of the ***Police Act*** suggested in the **2010 Annual Report** be implemented.

Respectfully Submitted,

June 26, 2015
Date

Hon. Gerard Mitchell
Police Commissioner

Appendix A

Office of the Police Commissioner
Summary of Actual Expenses for the period January 1 - December 31, 2014

Account #	Account Name	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2014	Apr 1 - Dec 31, 2014	Total - Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2014
100-3010	Advertising	$ -	$ -	$ -
100-3020	Benefits	$ 264.04	$ 939.68	$ 1,203.72
100-3080	CACOLE Conference 2013	$ -	$ 6,205.37	$ 6,205.37
100-3110	Cleaning	$ -	$ -	$ -
100-3120	Commissioners	$ 1,170.00	$ 8,220.00	$ 9,390.00
100-3190	Computer Equipment & Supplies	$ -	$ -	$ -
100-3200	Computer Maintenance	$ -	$ -	$ -
100-3260	Furniture & Equipment	$ -	$ -	$ -
100-3280	Insurance	$ -	$ -	$ -
100-3370	Memberships	$ 475.00	$ -	$ 475.00
100-3380	Office	$ 843.05	$ 2,375.98	$ 3,219.03
100-3400	Postage	$ 86.90	$ 396.50	$ 483.40
100-3410	Printed Supplies	$ 902.51	$ 193.62	$ 1,096.13
100-3440	Professional Fees	$ 2,100.00	$ 6,653.15	$ 8,753.15
100-3460	Publications	$ -	$ 260.91	$ 260.91
100-3480	Rent	$ 5,281.98	$ 15,845.94	$ 21,127.92
100-3500	Salaries	$ 10,200.00	$ 35,792.00	$ 45,992.00
100-3600	Telephone	$ 641.60	$ 2,724.83	$ 3,366.43
100-3700	Travel - Local	$ -	$ 263.11	$ 263.11
100-3750	Travel - Out of Province	$ -	$ -	$ -
	TOTAL EXPENSES	**$ 21,965.08**	**$ 79,871.09**	**$ 101,836.17**